

# LONDON- WEST MIDLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

## Volume 5 | Technical Appendices

CFA6 | South Ruislip to Ickenham  
**Baseline report (CH-001-006)**  
Cultural heritage

November 2013

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Department  
for Transport

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited,  
Eland House,  
Bressenden Place,  
London SW1E 5DU

Details of how to obtain further copies are available from HS2 Ltd.

Telephone: 020 7944 4908

General email enquiries: [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Structure of the cultural heritage appendices

1.1.1 The cultural heritage appendices for the South Ruislip to Ickenham area (CFA 6) comprise:

- baseline reports (this appendix);
- a gazetteer of heritage assets (Appendix CH-002-006);
- an impact assessment (Appendix CH-003-006); and
- survey reports (Appendix CH-004-006).

1.1.2 Maps referred to throughout the cultural heritage appendices are contained in the Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book.

## 1.2 Content and scope

1.2.1 This baseline provides the evidence base against which the assessment of assets that may be affected by the Proposed Scheme can be determined. It collates information about known and potential heritage assets from a variety of sources and presents a chronological description and discussion of the development of the study area, placing assets within their historical and archaeological context.

## 1.3 Study area

1.3.1 The study area lies within the London Borough of Hillingdon and London Borough of Ealing.

1.3.2 In accordance with the Scoping and Methodology Report (Volume 5: Appendix CT-001-000/1) and the Scoping Methodology Report Addendum (Volume 5: Appendix CT-001-000/2), the study area for all heritage assets has been defined as a 500m buffer around the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme in rural areas, and a 250m buffer in urban areas. The setting of designated heritage assets within the zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV)<sup>1</sup> has also been considered. For the purposes of this assessment assets within the 10mm settlement contour have also been considered. The 10mm settlement contour is almost entirely within the boundary of the existing railway line

1.3.3 The Proposed Scheme is located within bored tunnel from Old Oak Common to a point just west of High Road Ickenham/Ickenham Road. In this area there will be only discrete work sites including the South Ruislip vent site but the area above the tunnel will be subject to some degree of settlement along its length.

1.3.4 The setting of all designated heritage assets within the ZTV of the Proposed Scheme at the ventilation shaft locations and adjacent to the west side of the M25 has been

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<sup>1</sup> The ZTV used for this purpose in Greater London was that used for the Draft ES and shown on the CH – 02 maps in Volume 5. This covers, in places, a smaller area than the ZTV shown on the Volume 5 LV – 07 and LV – 08 landscape maps. It has been concluded that there are no designated assets in the areas outside the Draft ES ZTV the setting of which could be affected by the Proposed Scheme

considered. The study area within which a detailed assessment of all assets, designated and non-designated, is defined as the land required to construct the Proposed Scheme plus 500m in rural areas and plus 250m in urban areas, the study area includes both urban and rural landscapes. Additional consideration of non-designated built heritage assets within the 10mm settlement contour of the bored tunnel is also included.

- 1.3.5 All identified assets are listed in Appendix CH-002-006 and shown on Maps CH-01-018b, CH-01-019, CH-01-20, CH-01-21 and CH-01-022, CH-02-008b, CH-02-009 and CH-02-010 in Volume 5.

## **1.4 Data sources**

- 1.4.1 Sources examined as part of this baseline assessment include published secondary sources, cartographic sources, historic environment record (HER) data for undesignated heritage assets and English Heritage National Heritage List data for designated assets. A full list of published sources can be found in Section 10 of this appendix.

## **1.5 Surveys undertaken**

- 1.5.1 The following surveys were undertaken as part of the EIA process:
- light detection and ranging (LiDAR) survey of the majority of the Proposed Scheme and land around it (see appendix CH-004-006);
  - hyperspectral survey of the majority of the land around the Proposed Scheme (see appendix CH-004-006);
  - a programme of geophysical prospection at west of Copthall Farm (see Appendix: CH-004-006);
  - site reconnaissance field inspections to review the setting of historic assets and the character and form of the historic landscape; and
  - an assessment of hedgerows to identify those that qualify as being important under the Hedgerow Regulations.

## 2 Geology, topography and landform

- 2.1.1 The Ruislip to Ickenham CFA lies largely within the suburban area of Greater London and for the most part is urban in nature, with residential or light industrial developments. Prior to the 20th century this area had been largely agricultural and, today, to the west of High Road Ickenham the area becomes less urban with Ruislip Golf Course leading west towards farm land which spans the break of slope into the Colne Valley, retaining some of the previous rural character of the area. The western part of CFA6 skirts the flood plain of the River Colne.
- 2.1.2 The South Ruislip to Ickenham community forum area is situated in an area of low rolling hills dissected by small tributary rivers running towards the south west into the River Colne, although some of these are now culverted within the built up areas.
- 2.1.3 The solid geology of the study area comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the superficial geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.
- 2.1.4 The bedrock geology changes from the extensive Eocene London Clay in the south-east of the study area, to the clay, sand and silt of the Lambeth Group, sedimentary bedrock formed in the Palaeogene Period (65 to 55 million years ago) around the River Pinn. There is then another strip of London Clay between Breakspear Road and Harvil Road and an area of the Lambeth Group west of Harvil Road before passing onto Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation in the lower lying areas of the Colne Valley.
- 2.1.5 Superficial geology is recorded in the Colne Valley and around the River Pinn. These are the alluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel which date from the quaternary (up to 2 million years ago). The area was dominated by rivers in this period and extensive deposits known as the Thames Terrace deposits are common in the area and known to exist at the southern end of the sustainable placement south of Cophall Farm (RUI08).
- 2.1.6 These terraces are associated with the River Thames and those of its tributaries, the River Thame to the north and the River Colne, which marks the eastern border of Buckinghamshire. The terraces are former river beds which are preserved above the current floodplain as a result of on-going tectonic uplift and consequent down cutting as rivers have sought to maintain their base level. It is in association with the multiple terrace deposits that the most extensive and important Palaeolithic remains have been recorded.
- 2.1.7 It is possible that erosion on the plateau land and valley sides of the River Pinn and its tributaries will have also resulted in deposition of colluvium on lower slopes and within the valley floor. Such alluvial and colluvial deposits have the potential to mask archaeological deposits and to 'seal in' deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest.

## 3 Archaeological and historical background

### 3.1 Early prehistory

- 3.1.1 The earliest evidence of human occupation in Britain dates from the Lower Palaeolithic (circa 500,000 years ago) onwards. This evidence comprises assemblages of flint tools, of a variety of typologies, and faunal remains. In general very few Palaeolithic artefacts have been recorded in the clayland landscape which comprises the south eastern part of the landscape of the study area.
- 3.1.2 Assemblages of Palaeolithic material have usually been recorded in lowland Britain reflecting both the exploitation of river valleys and coastal plains, glacial lakes and other potential hunting grounds<sup>2</sup>, as well as the preferential survival of remains in such locations. Assemblages are similarly centred in areas of particular geology near to areas with flint-bearing rocks suitable for tool-making. Deposits of Palaeolithic remains have been recorded elsewhere in the area notably at Three Ways Wharf Uxbridge<sup>3</sup>.
- 3.1.3 It is unlikely that Palaeolithic (circa 500,000 - 10,000 BC) hominid activity was entirely confined to the major river valleys though geological processes may have resulted in most artefacts from this time period being found in these areas.
- 3.1.4 Hunter-gatherer groups in the Mesolithic increasingly began to exploit a wider range of landscapes and localities<sup>4</sup>, potentially including the uplands within the study area. Given the established exploitation of the uplands elsewhere in Britain, there may be some limited potential for remains of this date to lie within the study area. Mesolithic flint artefacts have been recovered from Herlwyn Avenue (RU1030) on the claylands in the south-east of the study area and it is unlikely that these arrived at this location by geological processes.
- 3.1.5 The study area lies on the edge of the Colne Valley system, the terrace gravels of which have produced numerous Palaeolithic to Mesolithic artefacts, deposits and evidence of human activity. These gravels extend along the River Colne. These types of evidence for human activity sites may exist on the higher ground to the east of the Colne Valley within the study area. Mesolithic sites have been excavated at Dewes Farm (CFA07) on gravelly spits above the water level just west of the study area.
- 3.1.6 The subsequent Neolithic (c. 4,000 - 2,500 BC) period is generally characterised by more permanent settlement, a reduction in nomadic, transient hunter-gatherer groups, and by the establishment of farming. It should be noted, however, that

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<sup>2</sup> Wymer, J., (1968), Lower Palaeolithic Archaeology in Britain, J. Baker.

<sup>3</sup> Lewis, J.S.C. Rackham, J. 2011 Three Ways Wharf, Uxbridge: a Late glacial and Early Holocene hunter-gatherer site in the Colne valley, Monograph Series 51: MOLA

<sup>4</sup> Barton, R.N.E. and Roberts, A. J., (2004), The Mesolithic period in England: current perspectives and new research. In: Saville, A. (ed), Mesolithic Scotland and its Neighbours, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland: Edinburgh.

despite this shift to agriculture, hunting, gathering and fishing remained important to the local economies<sup>5</sup>.

- 3.1.7 Evidence for this more sedentary life style has typically been found on the higher ground overlooking river valleys and better drained soils. Whilst this kind of evidence has not been found in the study area this typifies the settlement pattern found within the broader area and evidence of this has been found on the western slopes of the Colne Valley. There is no reason to believe that the eastern slope would not have been similarly exploited.
- 3.1.8 Settlement evidence for the Early Neolithic commonly comprises flint and stone scatters, limited pottery remains, and occasional cut features such as pits. Settlement enclosures and funerary monuments begin to be recorded in the landscape in the later Neolithic, but are scarce, and none are recorded within the study area though this may be due the extensive suburban sprawl having masked these sites.
- 3.1.9 The Bronze Age (c. 2,400 - 700 BC) is defined by the first usage of copper and bronze working in Britain, as well as the introduction of Beaker pottery. The evidence for Bronze Age settlement is, historically, much more scarce than that for funerary activity. Early Bronze Age settlement evidence is likely to be broadly similar to that of the Neolithic, comprising artefactual evidence and limited features, overwhelmingly pits. The purpose of pits from this period are varied and in some cases not well understood. Many are funerary pits whilst others were used for the disposal of midden material. Other pits from this period appear as alignments of considerable length which are viewed as monuments but the purpose of which is not understood.
- 3.1.10 Funerary remains are characterised by a shift from group burials and large group tombs to round barrows and individual burial, including the first recorded round barrows. These barrows are recorded across Britain, and vary in their location in the landscape, possibly reflecting territorial boundaries<sup>6</sup>, although they are more frequently found in the uplands, reflecting the increasing exploitation of more marginal land at this time.
- 3.1.11 Round barrows are often visible as small mounds, which can be difficult to interpret due to their physical similarity to mill mounds and other, later features. The barrows also contain below ground elements, including ring ditches, and primary and secondary burials, which may survive even when the upstanding earthworks of the barrow have been destroyed.
- 3.1.12 The Middle Bronze Age saw the first sustained settlement evidence, with round houses, field enclosures, and droveways. Settlement evidence for this period is likely to be represented by substantial cut features (including postholes, gullies, enclosures and paddocks) as well as pottery and bronze artefacts. Roundhouses are the typical settlement feature of the period; found both in isolation and in small groups. As with earlier periods, these settlements are most likely to be found overlooking water courses in landscapes with free-draining soils suitable for agriculture. Deforestation

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<sup>5</sup> Thomas, J., (1999), *Understanding the Neolithic*, Routledge, London.

<sup>6</sup> Watson, A., (2001), Round Barrows in a Circular World. In: Brück, J., *Bronze Age Landscapes: Tradition and Transformation*, Oxbow Books: Oxford.

and woodland clearance expanded during this period suggesting there may be greater potential for settlement in the more marginal upland areas, including much of the study area.

- 3.1.13 As well as settlement, the Bronze Age also saw early land division, evidence for which survives as extant landscape features elsewhere in the area. These divisions survive as shallow cut features as well as earthworks and large dykes. There is no evidence for similar large scale land division in the clay uplands, however, which may have been more suitable for cattle and horses, rather than agriculture (Williams 1993).
- 3.1.14 Later prehistoric (circa 1,500 BC - AD 43) settlement features may typically be found on higher ground overlooking valleys and adjacent to well drained soils, however it is also possible that they could be present buried under more recent alluvium in valley bottoms or colluvium on shallower valley slopes, though archaeological evidence for settlement in the area remains focused in the Colne Valley and the River Pinn. Bronze Age cremations have been recovered during a watching brief at Copthall Covert (RUI021) on the edge of the Colne Valley. A looped bronze axe head has been recovered near Harefield<sup>7</sup> and thin walled flint tempered pottery near from Dewes Pit (CFA07). Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scatters and Bronze Age barrows have been found in the Colne Valley. Whilst this indicates a presence in the landscape there is no evidence in the study area for significant land use or settlement until the Iron Age.

## 3.2 Iron Age

- 3.2.1 Settlement patterns in the Early Iron Age (700 -400BC) differ little from that of the Bronze Age. The majority of evidence for Iron Age settlement in the broader area comes from south of the study area near Heathrow although this is in part due to the extensive development in this area. Some of these sites show continuity of settlement through the transition period from Bronze Age to Iron Age including sites at Holloway Lane, West Drayton<sup>7</sup> and the westward extension of Runway 1, Heathrow Airport. The Bronze Age pattern of isolated farmsteads changes in the Late Iron Age (400 BC - 43 AD) with the addition of larger settlements and more centralised features such as hill forts, and oppida, the nearest of which is at St Albans.
- 3.2.2 The builders of Iron Age (c. 700 BC - AD 43) and Romano-British (AD 43 - 410) settlements favoured the higher ground overlooking the river valleys. The edge of a Romano-British settlement has been excavated during a watching brief for a pipeline, north of Newyears Green Lane. It is quite possible that this settlement has its origins in the Iron Age.

## 3.3 Roman

- 3.3.1 Evidence for settlement during the Roman period is scarce in the study area. As mentioned above in Section 3.2.2, an Iron Age to Romano-British settlement is known, to the north-west of Newyears Green Farm. The presence of another settlement from the Roman period in the area may very tentatively be suggested by the name 'Pynchester' (RUI001).

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<sup>7</sup> Cotton, J. , Mills, J. Clegg, G., (1986), *Archaeology in West Middlesex*, London Borough of Hillingdon.

- 3.3.2 Changes in settlement patterns in the Late Iron Age/Roman period have been described as 'subtle rather than dramatic'<sup>8</sup>. The upper River Thames saw a relatively dramatic landscape restructuring, and a fairly distinct 'break' between Iron Age and Roman period settlements, partly as a result of continuing population pressure.
- 3.3.3 The Iron Age to Romano-British evidence excavated at Denham Park Farm (CFA7) on the western slope of the Colne Valley may present some evidence for continuity of occupation of prehistoric sites into the Roman period within the study area, although this indicates that the settlement pattern may have been fairly rural in nature.
- 3.3.4 The establishment of the Roman road network had a major effect on the landscape, leading to the establishment of new settlements and the growth of existing centres. The alignment of a Roman road between Verulamium (St Albans) and a settlement at Laleham is believed to lie near the western boundary of the study area though its exact location is far from certain. It is possible that the Roman British settlement north of Newyears Green may relate to this road.
- 3.3.5 Settlement of Romano-British date is usually more extensive in scale than that of later prehistory, with a greater variety of material culture (including new pottery typologies, metalwork and glass); there is also widespread use of stone, brick and tile for building. In 1937 a flint wall interspersed with Roman brick was reported at Manor Farm, Ruislip, along with pottery of the period but more recent excavations have been unable to substantiate these claims though further pottery was recovered.
- 3.3.6 There are no known villas in the study area but the known pattern of Roman settlement in southern England suggests that typical spacing between villas is 2km to 3km.

## 3.4 Early medieval

- 3.4.1 Evidence for the post-Roman transition period in the study area is extremely rare. This may indicate refocusing of settlement onto lighter soils in the post-Roman period, moving away from the heavy clay and Roman road network which ran across it<sup>9</sup>.
- 3.4.2 Archaeological evidence of Later Saxon settlement (circa AD 850 - 1066) can also be elusive. Many early medieval settlements are likely to have been precursors to extant villages, making identification difficult. The major change, a shift from dispersed to nucleated villages, is likely to have been largely concealed by subsequent development. Evidence for the period may have been affected by the loss of sites before identification, due to gravel extraction and suburban expansion. Ruislip, Harefield and Ickenham are all mentioned in the Domesday Survey, were in existence during the medieval period (AD 1066 - 1539) and may have their origins as early medieval settlements.
- 3.4.3 Northolt (CFA 5) is first mentioned in AD 962 in a document referring to events in 950 when Wulfgar was lord of 'Nordhealum'. The later form of the name was Northall

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<sup>8</sup> Kidd, S., (2010), Prehistoric Farmers. In: Farley, M. (ed), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury.

<sup>9</sup> Zeepvat, R.J. and Radford, D. (2007), *Roman Buckinghamshire*, (draft) Solent Thames Research Framework.

which may have been a counterpart to Southall nearby. Excavations at the Manor House at Northolt revealed Anglo-Saxon burials with weapons. Weapons burials commonly include knives, swords, shield bosses and jewellery and are pre-Christian burials interpreted to represent burials of a person of warrior status although the age and sex of some would suggest they were not literally warriors. These burials predate the conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity which occurred largely in the 7th century as a result of the missionary activity of St Augustine and others.

- 3.4.4 At Domesday the Manor of Northolt was held by Geoffrey de Mandeville who also held land at Ickenham.

## 3.5 Medieval

- 3.5.1 The broad pattern of landscape and settlement which existed in the study area prior to the 20th century urban sprawl (and to some extent reflected within it) was laid out during the early medieval and medieval period. Clustered villages surrounded by agricultural hinterland predominate, with scattered manors and farmsteads in the surrounding countryside. There are two medieval manorial moated sites located between the River Pinn and Colne Valley at Pynchester Farm (RUI001) and Brackenbury Farm (RUI002).
- 3.5.2 At Brackenbury moated site three sides of a quadrangular moat are extant and are fed by the nearby River Pinn. The southern and deepest part is 8m wide but narrows to 3m on the western side. The outer bank surrounds the moat on three sides and is most prominent on the northern side. The eastern side has been filled in the 20th century. Brackenbury Farmhouse is a 16th century farm house with a substantial 17th century timber framed building known as Brackenbury House adjoining. These are set within the moated area and to its east across the filled section of moat. The whole complex is set in a semi-rural landscape west of the conurbation of Ickenham. The landscape west of Breakspear Road South is largely one of post-medieval enclosures and roads which generally follow the alignment of medieval lanes, though Harvil Road has been straightened and the landscape impacted by the railway line and embankment which runs just north of the moated site. Although the medieval landscape has been impacted by the later enclosures and the railway line the moated site and farm can be understood within a semi-open rural landscape.
- 3.5.3 Trackways leading to Pynchester Farm did not become part of the system of post-medieval lanes and the modern road system suggesting that this became less important in the later medieval period. The site is not marked on the 1786 Carey map.
- 3.5.4 Entries for medieval archaeology within the Greater London HER are infrequent, most lying within the pre 20th century historic cores of the modern settlements. Evidence for medieval (AD 1066 - 1540) settlement is most likely to be found in the region of the main settlements of Ruislip and Ickenham and at isolated moated sites such as Brackenbury Farm (RUI 002) and Pynchester (RUI001).
- 3.5.5 Carey's map of 1786 shows that between the historic cores of Ickenham and Ruislip and north-west of Northolt lay a large area of open fields. These lay on either side of Yeading Brook and extending between Hillingdon and Harrow/Wealdstone and

crossed only by West End Lane, and Field End Road in the study area. The later pattern of field boundaries in the same area shows a system of 19th century parliamentary enclosures indicating that this area remained as medieval open fields up until this time. One of the fields in the area of the South Ruislip vent site is referred to on several maps as 'Bone Field'. This may tentatively suggest the presence of an early medieval or older burial ground in this area. An alternative explanation however is that this is a development of 'Bourne Field'. There is some potential for the remains of a medieval bridge known as Bourne Bridge at West End Road at the point where it crosses Yeading Brook. This would be considered an asset of low value.

- 3.5.6 Remnants of the medieval open field management remain as ridge and furrow still extant within the landscape of Ruislip Golf Course (RUI016) south-west of the site of Beetonswood Farm. Away from this open field area the landscape was likely to have been at least partially wooded as suggested by the name Beetonswood.
- 3.5.7 This pattern of medieval settlement most probably continued through the post-medieval (AD1540 - 1900) period, as evidenced by extant post-medieval dwellings in the core of the three settlements. This does not preclude the presence of post-medieval buried structures in the more rural areas north-west of High Road, Ickenham. Cartographic evidence suggests a number of farmhouses and associated farm buildings had been established by this period, mainly at the locations of existing farms.
- 3.5.8 A small alien priory had been established at Ruislip circa 1149 by the Benedictine Priory of Ogbourne, Wiltshire, itself a cell of the Abbey of Bec-Hellouin, the land having been granted by Ernulph de Heding in 1096. An alien priory refers to a religious establishment in England under the control of another religious house outside England. It was dissolved in 1414 and the land passed to Kings College Cambridge in 1461. This priory would have managed the land in the area surrounding it as would the other manorial estates throughout the study area.
- 3.5.9 The widespread enclosure of the landscape to create the present arrangement of hedged fields and winding tracks which remain west of Breakspear Road, such as Newyears Green Lane, may have begun with the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century and accelerated with the introduction of new farming techniques during the 17th century. Many of the farmhouses and associated agricultural buildings in the area, for example St Leonards Farm (RUI074) and Crow's Nest Farm (RUI075), were built between the 17th and 19th centuries and it is buildings of these types that make up the majority of the listed buildings away from the centres of Ruislip and Ickenham.
- 3.5.10 Post-medieval cartographic evidence indicates that north-west of High Road, Ickenham, and outside of the villages of Ruislip and Ickenham are a number of small settlements and farmsteads scattered around the area, such as Clack Farm (RUI076), Crow's Nest Farm (RUI 075), and Highway Farm (RUI006). These may have their origins in later medieval farmsteads and the numerous track ways between them suggest that small estates predominated in this area.
- 3.5.11 Further evidence of the medieval period is probably focused in and around the historic core of existing suburbs within the area east of Breakspear Road and existing

settlements, to its west; although the possibility of there being limited evidence of other abandoned medieval settlements beneath 20th century developments cannot be discounted.

## 3.6 Post-medieval and Modern

- 3.6.1 The character of settlement evidence from the post-medieval period is one in which it is still visible embedded in the suburban landscape. The buildings in the historic cores of Ruislip and Ickenham date from this period whilst the main roads between them and other settlements have fossilised the alignments of the medieval lanes.
- 3.6.2 The medieval settlement pattern largely continued into the post-medieval period and in 1897 the area was still essentially rural with discrete villages and isolated farmsteads. The Great Western, London and North Eastern and Great Central Joint Railways were constructed between 1899 and 1906. Airfields were established at Royal Air Force (RAF) Northolt (RUI010) and RAF West Ruislip (RUI011) during World War 1. By 1935 suburban development had reached the eastern fringe of CFA6 and certain areas west of this were beginning to be developed, however, large areas of CFA6 were still farmland.
- 3.6.3 The scale and pace of alteration increased during the 19th and early 20th century. The Great Western and Great Central railways agreed to construct a new line from Old Oak Common to High Wycombe in an attempt to shorten the Great Western Line to Birmingham and increase the Great Central's access to London. It opened to Park Road in 1903 and between Westbourne Park and Greenford in 1904, but only opened throughout in 1910. The Piccadilly or the Great Northern Piccadilly and Brompton Railway was finished in 1906. The Central Line was completed in 1900. The Neasden and Northolt Railway Opened in 1906. The mobility facilitated by these lines encouraged the residential development of the area. The existing centres of Northolt and Ickenham expanded whilst new developments appeared initially along the main thoroughfares near the rail stations of West Ruislip which had opened in 1906 and Northolt Junction (now South Ruislip) in 1908, Ruislip Gardens Station in 1934.
- 3.6.4 Airfields were established at RAF Northolt and RAF West Ruislip during World War 1. By 1935 suburban development had reached the eastern fringe of the study area and certain areas west of this were beginning to be developed as outlined above. Large areas of the study area were, however, still farmland. By 1960 the area of the study area looked largely as it does at present with the medieval/post-medieval core of the villages east of Breakspear Road being engulfed by suburban development and the areas between the local roads full of the residential streets and closes of 'Metroland'.
- 3.6.5 RAF Northolt was first established in 1915 and has remained in active service until the present. Initially it was home to BE2c aircraft whose task was to defend London against Zeppelin raids. The officer's mess was constructed around 1920 and is still operational along with a hangar and barrack blocks dating from the 1920s and 1930s. RAF Northolt was the first RAF Station to accommodate the Hurricane which was vital in defending London during World War 2. During this time it was also home to the entire Polish Wing of the RAF. In 1946 RAF Northolt was loaned for use by civil aviation authorities whilst Heathrow was being rebuilt. By 1952 it had become the

busiest airfield in Europe. The use of larger aircraft and increasing aircraft and passenger movements required longer runways, greater hangarage and commercial development of the area combined with improved transport infrastructure.

- 3.6.6 RAF West Ruislip was first established in 1917 with further buildings erected in 1920. In 1921 the northernmost part became the RAF Record Office, with the site being split in 1924. During World War II the site expanded but at the end of the war the Record Office was wound down and records moved to Gloucester in 1951. The Medical Survey office was formed in 1951 and was situated on the site briefly until transfer in 1952. From 1919 to 1939 the depot stored complete aero-engines and spares, and aircraft spares. RAF Maintenance Command set up in 1937, and West Ruislip became part of No.40 Group (Equipment) handling not just repairs but also vehicle and radar development during World War II. Post war servicing of engines and radar continued as a major activity. West Ruislip was handed over to the United States Third Air Force in 1951 for use in consolidating units located in the UK. No.4 Maintenance Unit remained until 1957. In 1962 the 7500th Air Base Group moved to West Ruislip, replacing the 7553rd Air Base Squadron. The majority of the site became residential in the 1990s.

## 4 Built heritage

- 4.1.1 The section provides the following information:
- a broad overview of the character and form of the settlement pattern and key assets within the study area;
  - descriptions of all built heritage assets wholly or partially within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme and 500m from it, including those within the 10mm settlement contour; and
  - descriptions of key designated assets within the ZTV including a description of the setting of each asset.
- 4.1.2 There are no designated heritage assets located partially or wholly within land required to construct the proposed scheme or within the 10mm settlement contour.
- 4.1.3 No non-designated assets of moderate value lie wholly or partially within the land required to construct the Proposed Scheme:
- 4.1.4 The following designated assets are located outside of the land required to construct the Proposed Scheme, but within the ZTV (see maps CH-02-008b, CH-02-009 and CH-02-0101 in Volume 5):
- four scheduled monuments including a medieval moated site at Pynchester Farm (RUI001), Brackenbury Farm moated site (RUI002), Ruislip motte and bailey (RUI003) and Pale Park, Ruislip (RUI004);
  - three Grade II\* listed buildings including the Church of St Giles (RUI041), the Great Barn to the west of Manor Farm Yard, Ruislip (RUI050) and numbers 9-15 High Street, Ruislip (RUI059); and

- Sixty five Grade II listed buildings. 15 of these stand in the Ruislip Village Conservation area whilst 16 stand within the Ickenham Conservation Area. Notable semi isolated buildings include Highway Farm (RU1006), St Leonards Farm (RU1064), Crows Nest Farm (RU1065) and Copthall Farm (RU1008).

## 4.2 Ruislip

- 4.2.1 Ruislip is recorded in the Domesday Survey as having 53 households and being taxable for 30 geld units and was therefore a very large settlement for the period. At this time it was held by Arnulf of Hesdin who was also tenant in chief. In 1066 it had been held by King Edward as overlord and Wulfward White the Noble as lord. Some archaeological evidence from shortly after this period is provided by the remains of the Norman motte and bailey which probably incorporated timber ramparts. The mound and moat form part of extant earthworks at Manor Farm which takes a central place in the oldest part of Ruislip.
- 4.2.2 Ruislip village conservation area (RU1040) essentially encompasses the medieval core of Ruislip Village. First designated in 1969 it has been extended in 1973 and 2008.
- 4.2.3 The area of the original conservation comprised 16th century to 17th century clusters of buildings centred around Manor Farm and the parish church of St Martin of Tours. This area is remarkably intact in its post medieval form and retaining a village atmosphere. Many of the listed buildings are situated around the High Street, Eastcote Road and Bury Junction.
- 4.2.4 The oldest part of Manor Farm House was built in the 16th century and it was extended by 18th century additions. It was built on the site of a small priory which had been established around 1149 by the Benedictine Priory of Ogbourne, Wiltshire itself a cell of the Abbey of Bec-Hellouin, the land having been granted by Ernulph de Heding in 1096. It was dissolved in 1414 and the land passed to Kings College Cambridge in 1461. The remains of thick flint walls and a Gothic tracery are evident beneath the lawn and a barn to the south west of the Manor Farm House was constructed circa 1600.
- 4.2.5 A Grade I listed building stands within the conservation area. This is the Church of St Martin of Tours. Externally the Church is predominantly 15th to early 16th century. It lacks the clerestory common to many churches of that period. The church has an embattled south west tower standing over the western bay of the south aisle.
- 4.2.6 The nave roof is relatively steep pitched with a single dormer on the south side and embattled parapets on both the north and south aisles. The walls of the south aisle and south chancel chapel are continuous, but the chapel is a later addition and has slightly different buttresses. The earliest feature is the 12th century font. A priest is mentioned in Domesday at Ruislip indicating the church was in existence in the 11th century.
- 4.2.7 There are two Grade II\* buildings in the conservation area, these being the Great Barn to the west of Manor Farmyard and numbers 9-15 High Street.

- 4.2.8 The Great Barn is a 13th century aisled barn which has been partially rebuilt in the late 17th century or 18th century. It is a weather boarded building on a brick and flint rubble plinth with a hipped tiled roof. It is exceptional example of an early timber-frame aisled barn and is comparable to the great barns at Cressing Temple and Coggeshall in Essex.
- 4.2.9 Numbers 9-15 High Street is a 16th century timber framed building. It comprises a two storey range of six bays. The fronts are now smooth rendered with modern casement windows. The old tiled roof is penetrated by a central stack.
- 4.2.10 The grade II listed buildings within the conservation area, the majority of which are 16th and 17th century timber framed buildings, are:
- small barn to south of Manor Farm (RU1040);
  - cowshed and sties to north-west of Manor Farm Yard(RU1040);
  - cowshed to east of Manor Farm Yard(RU1040);
  - the Manor Farmhouse(RU1040);
  - the Swan Inn(RU1040);
  - number 6 High Street(RU1040);
  - the Old Priory Restaurant(RU1040);
  - number 1 1a and 1b High Street(RU1040);
  - Ruislip Almshouses(RU1040);
  - Hailey's Shop, The Village Sweet Shop(RU1040);
  - K6 telephone kiosk opposite north end of High Street(RU1040);
  - the Old House(RU1040);
  - Mill House(RU1040);
  - monument to Annie Hall north-east of War Memorial and behind number 39 in St Martins Churchyard(RU1040); and
  - the British Legion Hall(RU1040).
- 4.2.11 The introduction of the railways in 1904 spurred the development of the High Street and surrounding residential areas. In response to the rapid and haphazard development of the area a competition was held by Kings College in 1908 to develop a garden suburb. The competition was won by A and J Soutar. Having been partially built this was incorporated into a large garden suburb development in 1914. This plan had been developed by Ruislip Norwood Urban District Council.
- 4.2.12 Again this design was never fully realised but it did succeed in influencing the design of subsequent development which was consistently of high architectural quality. This has resulted in Ruislip's spacious and 'Garden Suburb' character. The architectural

styles and details are varied within the constraints of the 1920s/30s 'metroland' character.

## 4.3 Ickenham

- 4.3.1 Ickenham (RU1037) is first mentioned in Domesday as comprising 25 households and taxed at 15 geld units. The Manor had woodland for 200 pigs. In 1066 the land in and around Ickenham had been awarded to Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury. In 1086 three estates are mentioned as being in Tichenam. It later comprised four manors: Ickenham, Tyckenham, Swalciffe (Swakelys), and Herses, which was later absorbed into Swalciffe. In 1140 Geoffrey de Mandeville became the first known Lord of Ickenham, being a sub tenant to Roger de Montgomery. It was later occupied by sub tenants of Geoffrey de Mandeville and in 1334 it passed to John Charlton whose son John had owned Swakeleys from 1350. Shortly afterward it passed to the Shorediche Family who then owned it till 1819. The Shorediche family built a Manor House on a track off Long Lane calling it Ickenham Hall but in 1818 they sub-let this and changed the name to Manor Farm.
- 4.3.2 In the 16th century the Crosier Family moved to Ickenham. Having been major landowners in Middlesex they established their home at Sherwyns which in 1818 became the renamed Ickenham Hall. The Crosier family had also owned Home Farm and Sears House in 1624. William Crosier bought Milton Farm from the Shorediche family in 1685. In 1915 descendants of the Crosier family sold Milton Farm to become RAF Northolt.
- 4.3.3 In 1638 Edmund Wright, a wealthy London merchant and future Lord Mayor of London bought Swakeleys from John Bingley and built the extant Swakeleys as a family home. It is considered to be an important example of Artisan Mannerism and is red brick with stone and stucco dressings. It was not, however, the first building on the site, the first having been built in the 1300s.
- 4.3.4 No church is mentioned at Ickenham at Domesday. The nave and chancel of the Church of St Giles has been dated to 1335. A bell turret was added in the 15th century and the brick aisles added in 1575. The village as we see it now has accreted around Long Lane which connected Hillingdon, Ickenham and Ruislip and around the Church of St Giles.
- 4.3.5 In 1857 Charlotte Gell, resident of The Buntings, donated land for the construction of almshouses for long standing servants of the Gell household or Church of England residents of Ickenham. The almshouses stand adjacent to the Coach and Horse public house which was built in the 16th century and was first licensed to sell alcohol in 1759. Besides its role as a pub it acted as the venue for manorial courts until 1878.
- 4.3.6 In 1863 Charlotte Gell died and left provision in her will for the excavation of a village pond and the establishment of a village pump at the junction of Long Lane and Swakeleys Road.
- 4.3.7 Swakeleys was built between 1629 -1630 for Sir Edmund Wright. It is considered to be an important example of 'artisan mannerism'. The red brick building is H-shaped with stone and stucco dressings. It is a two storey building with five bays on the main front

elevations and four on the sides. The building has tall, shaped gables with pediments above all bays. The windows are large mullioned and transomed casements. There is a fine classical screen in the hall dating from around 1664.

- 4.3.8 A pair of red brick L-shaped ranges enclosing a courtyard. The buildings are single storey with pedimented dormers, gauged round brick arches to doors and to leaded casements windows.
- 4.3.9 Ickenham Manor is a two storey late medieval manor house with 16th, 17th, and 18th century alterations and additions. It is timber framed, mostly stuccoed to the west wing, whilst the rest of the building has brick cladding to ground floor. There are two early 18th century brick additions to the east. The west wing is late medieval, the large north-south range being 16th century, the north end being jettied on a moulded beam. A 17th century staircase extension is set at a re-entrant angle between these ranges, to the north-west. A substantial old brick chimney with offsets is also set at an angle. The windows are 18th century sashed windows with glazing bars, some under cambered arches. The medieval west wing comprises two bays with crown post roof. The western bay is smoke-blackened above collar level, indicating that it may have been a medieval hall, open to the roof.
- 4.3.10 The church of St Giles is a Grade II\* building. The nave and chancel of the church are 14th century and the bell turret was added or rebuilt in the 15th century. The north aisle was added around 1575-1580 along with the south porch. The north vestry was added as mortuary chapel around 1640 -1650 and the chancel arch was rebuilt and the north arcade inserted or rebuilt. The west extension was built in 1958.
- 4.3.11 The Grade II listed buildings within the Ickenham Conservation Area are mainly timber framed buildings dating from the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries. These are:
- Long Lane Farm cottages (RUI037);
  - the Coach House and Horses Public House (RUI037);
  - Swakeley Cottage (RUI037);
  - Appletree Cottage (RUI037),
  - Gell's Almshouses (RUI037);
  - Ickenham Hall (RUI037);
  - Ickenham Manor (RUI037);
  - the Home Farmhouse (RUI037);
  - forecourt wall to numbers 20-26 (RUI037);
  - K6 telephone kiosk opposite Swakeley Road (RUI037);
  - forecourt wall to Ickenham Hall (RUI037);
  - garden walls to east of Manor Farmhouse (RUI037);
  - monument to Robert Shorediche in St Giles Churchyard (RUI037);

- jubilee flag pole Church of St Giles (RUI037),
- pump on island in road Ickenham (RUI037),
- monument to John Crosier chancel Church of St Giles (RUI037).

## 4.4 Highway Farm

- 4.4.1 Highway Farm (RUI006) is a group of three grade II listed structures. The main farmhouse is an early 17th century building with mid-18th century wing added to the front, both red brick with pitched tile roof. A compound stack penetrates the roof south of the ridge of the older building and the main south front is two storeys with three windows. The building has recessed sash windows with glazing bars, including the ones on the ground floor which are mounted in 19th century canted bays. A central wooden porch with a gothic arch houses a six panel door mounted within a panelled reveal with moulded architrave and side pilasters.
- 4.4.2 The complex of farm buildings at Highway Farm is a late 16th century barn of five and two bays. The construction incorporates queen post roof trusses to through purlins with wind braces above weatherboard walls and below an old tiled roof. The rafters are all original. There are two porches on the north side and a single story late 17th-century or 18th century shelter shed running north from barn. This also incorporates queen post trusses, weatherboard walls and tiled roof.
- 4.4.3 The farm complex is fronted by red brick walls of 18th century appearance with flat buttresses and shallow sloped brick coping. There are taller stone coped brick piers to gates.
- 4.4.4 It was believed that the southern arm of the medieval moat at Highway Farm was all that survived from an older farm. In 2004 an evaluation by the Museum of London Archaeology Service showed that this moat was actually of a modern date, and is thought to post-date the modern landfill on the site.
- 4.4.5 Highway Farm lies with a semi-rural landscape of post medieval enclosures on the north side of Harvil Road. The broader landscape has been impacted to some degree by mineral extraction and a modern waste transfer station. The farm retains its relationship with the original alignment of Harvil Road and surrounding post medieval enclosures and therefore a considerable degree of its near setting which contributes to an extent to its significance.

## 4.5 Brackenbury Farmhouse

- 4.5.1 Brackenbury Farmhouse (RUI002) is a Grade II listed structure comprising a 16th century Farm House with a substantial two and half storey 17th century timber framed gentlemen's residence known as Brackenbury House. On the 1786 Carey map it is referred to as 'Blackenburgh'. It is covered by a half hipped tile roof with two original ridge stacks. The walls are now pebble dashed and the windows are mullioned and transomed casements.
- 4.5.2 At the location of the blocked eastern arm of the moat, to southeast of Brackenbury House a new outbuilding has been constructed partly on the site of a previous

building. In 1999 the house was badly fire damaged and restoration works have taken place.

- 4.5.3 Three sides of the quadrangular moat are extant which has been much modified by landscape gardening. It is fed by the nearby River Pinn in the southern and deepest part, at which point the moat it is 10m wide but narrows to 3m on the western side. An outer counterscarp bank surrounded the moat on three sides but is only prominent on the northern side. The eastern side has been filled in the 20th century. Much of the area is wooded.
- 4.5.4 Paddocks and stables were built on the southeast portion of the site in 1984. The moat is generally clean and water filled, though apparently becoming increasingly silted up. Brackenbury was a relatively small manor held by the Newdigate Family.
- 4.5.5 The setting of Brackenbury Farm medieval moated site has already been impacted by the Great Western and Great Central Joint Rail line which is on embankment approximately 50m to the north and the urban sprawl of Ickenham which has encroached to 90m south east of the site. Some elements of its medieval rural setting remain to its west in the form of agricultural land although this owes more to the post medieval enclosed landscape than the predominantly open field landscape of the medieval period. Breakspear Road South retains its original alignment at this point though Harvil Lane to the west has been straightened since 1786 (Carey). A lane running from near Copthall Farm to Harvil Road appears to have been lost since 1786. Whilst the setting of the moated site retains some of its medieval open character it has been heavily impacted. Setting therefore contributes to an extent to its significance.

## 4.6 St Leonard Farmhouse

- 4.6.1 St Leonards Farmhouse (RU1064) is a 16th century T-shaped building which has been re fronted in 19th century red brick. Some older brick is visible in places. A compound brick stack with cornice protrudes through a high pitched tiled roof. The windows are sliding sash windows. Internally much of the timber framing is exposed with one ground floor room having fine chamfered beams and joists. It incorporates a side purlin roof with queen posts and wind braces. A 15th to 17th century barn stands to the east of the farmhouse.
- 4.6.2 The broader landscape around St Leonards Farm is semi-rural and retains the field boundaries of a post medieval enclosed landscape, however, the near setting of both buildings has been impacted by modern commercial/light industrial buildings to the south and a mineral extraction site and its associated vehicle storage and maintenance yards to the north east and a composting maturation site to the north west. The setting of St Leonards therefore makes some limited contribution to its significance. The 'farm' and 'barn' are largely divorced from their associated farmland due to a range of modern developments.

## 4.7 Crow's Nest Farm

- 4.7.1 Crow's Nest Farm (RU1065) dates from the mid-16th century and is a two storey house of two bays with left rear wing forming an L-shape building which once stood on the western boundary of Ruislip Common.
- 4.7.2 It is timber framed but has an 18th century brick skin to the front and a brick dentil cornice. The old tiled roof has a central compound stack. The first floor windows are early 19th century sashes whilst the ground floor windows are early 20th century square bays. The house has an 18th century door with a pedimented door case and sits in a modern trellis porch. The timber framing is visible on the ends of the building with painted brick filling. A long lean-to probably of late 17th century date stands on the right. A considerable number of substantial timbers are visible inside and a side-purlin roof with heavy wind braces is evident. Some Elizabethan panelling is apparent in the upstairs room. Medieval pottery found near Breakspear Road on Land West of Crow's Nest Farm may suggest an older origin.
- 4.7.3 Crow's Nest farm still sits in a semi-rural environment on Breakspear Road which follows its original alignment. This rural environment has however been impacted by modern metal framed farm buildings immediately to its north and west and the suburban conurbation of Ruislip which encroaches to 160m east of Crows Nest Farm. The farmhouse is therefore largely divorced from its associated farm land by a range of modern developments. The setting of Crow's Nest Farm therefore contributes to a limited extent to its significance.

## 4.8 Copthall Farm

- 4.8.1 Copthall Farm (RU1008) is a 16th century timber framed building with later brick skin and a late 19th century south-east wing added to it. Two bays of the old house remain visible. A Victorian I-Bay wing projects from the side under a hipped gable. A late 17th century lean-to is attached to the rear. Heavy square framing is visible at the rear with brick filling, and a projecting chimney in the southern bay. The Farmhouse has small 19th century single bar casement windows throughout. Internal framing is complete including a side purlin roof with wind braces.
- 4.8.2 Modern metal framed farm buildings associated with the farm immediately to its north and west and the suburban conurbation of Ickenham immediately adjacent to the east side of Breakspear Road have however impacted upon its post medieval setting. Elements of the post medieval landscape in the form of post medieval enclosures and hedges do however remain to the west of the farm. The setting of Copthall Farm contributes to a limited extent to its significance.

# 5 Historic map regression

- 5.1.1 The analysis of the cartographic evidence for the study area has been integrated within the archaeological and historical baseline narrative (Sections 3 and 4 of this report).

## 6 Historic landscape

- 6.1.1 The study area incorporates two distinct modern landscapes. South-east of Breakspear Road is dominated by 20th century urban sprawl interspersed with green recreation areas such as Ruislip Golf Club. West of Breakspear Road is a semi-rural landscape which retains many post-medieval enclosure boundaries within the network of modern minor roads which have fossilised the alignment of medieval to post-medieval track way alignments.
- 6.1.2 This north-western semi-rural area has not escaped the impact of modern development. Sand and gravel extraction has significantly impacted upon certain areas and the woodlands at Newyears Green Covert and Copthall Covert are modern plantations. North of Newyears Green Lane there has been significant boundary removal in the 20th century. In the broader landscape the alluvial plain of the River Colne outside of study area to the west has been subject to extensive gravel extraction in the 20th century which has formed the lakes now extant. The valley has also been bisected by the Great Western Railway, and the Grand Union Canal.
- 6.1.3 Many of the farmhouses and associated agricultural buildings in this north-western part of the study area are representative of a wider picture of dispersed and isolated farmsteads in the area as a whole. These were for the most part built between the 17th and 19th centuries.
- 6.1.4 To a certain extent the present division of the landscape in the study area into two areas, one more populous than the other, is indicative of the medieval/post-medieval landscape. The medieval landscape was divided roughly along the alignment of Ickenham High Road. South-east of this road was a large area of 'open fields' extending as far as the eastern extent of the study area, near the medieval village of Northolt. North-west of Ickenham High Road the landscape displays many more track ways and small manors and farms. This north-western area has changed less than that to the south-east, since 1796.
- 6.1.5 The large area south-east of Ickenham Highroad, characterised by medieval open fields with few track ways or roads and no settlements, covers an area approximately 3.5km wide, on either side of the Yeading Brook from as far south-west as Hillingdon to Harrow and Wealdstone in the north-west.

### 6.2 Important hedgerows

- 6.2.1 There are no hedgerows considered to be important under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 within the study area.

### 6.3 Ancient Woodland

- 6.3.1 There are three areas Ancient Woodland within the ZTV. These are:
- Bayhurst Wood;
  - Mad Bess Wood; and
  - Park Wood.

6.3.2 These are all situated north of the Proposed Scheme between Harefield and Ruislip.

## **7 Historic parks and gardens**

7.1.1 There are no historic parks and gardens within the study area.

## 8 Archaeological character

### 8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 To determine the archaeological potential for the study area, it was sub-divided into archaeological character areas. These archaeological character areas are derived from a consideration of the current topography, geology and current land use. From these factors the potential for recovery of archaeological remains is considered.
- 8.1.2 From these broad character areas, the study area was further subdivided into archaeological sub-zones, which have allowed for a more in-depth understanding of the archaeological potential to be articulated based on additional factors associated with the distribution and proximity of archaeological discoveries and local topographical features. Nine archaeological sub-zones have been defined which are discussed below.

### 8.2 Character areas

- 8.2.1 The archaeological character areas described below extend from south-east to north-west within the Study Area.

#### **Archaeological character area 4: Northolt to Newyears Green**

- 8.2.2 This area is characterised by sand and London Clay solid geology with superficial drift deposits of alluvium, brick earth, clay and terrace gravel. The western part of this area descends into the flood plain of the River Pinn leading westward into the River Colne. The River Colne is a major tributary of the River Thames.
- 8.2.3 The cultural landscape of this archaeological character area is characterised by 20th century suburban expansion which has developed around the pre-existing medieval/post-medieval settlements of Ruislip, Ickenham and Northholt, over a previously pastoral landscape. The operational airfield of RAF Northolt occupies a significant part of this area south of the Proposed Scheme. There are also major infrastructure items such as the Great Central/Great Western Joint Railway Line and major roads accessing the centre of London.
- 8.2.4 The majority of this part of the study area was previously occupied by a very large area of medieval 'open fields'. Consequently significant archaeology from the medieval period is unlikely in these areas though sites of later prehistoric through to the Roman period may be expected with some possibility of medieval sites between Ickenham High Road and Newyears Green.
- 8.2.5 The predominantly suburban nature masks visibility of archaeology except for historic settlement cores and outlying moated sites (medieval). There may be significant ground truncation within the suburban area.

#### **Archaeological character area 5: Newyears Green to River Colne**

- 8.2.6 This area is located within the west facing slope of the Colne Valley and therefore the geology comprises colluvium and possibly alluvial deposits near the boundary with CFA 7 overlying Thames Terrace deposits associated with Colne and former River

Thames channel. Draining to the south-west along the River Pinn joins the River Colne, a former channel of the proto-Thames and used from the Mesolithic onwards as a natural route way from the River Thames into Chiltern massif.

- 8.2.7 This is a Thames Terrace zone where good visibility of later prehistoric to early medieval remains in aerial archaeology is to be expected. Outside gravel extracted areas and the suburban zone it is expected that there will be good survival of archaeological deposits. Investigations at Denham Park and Three Ways Wharf have established the potential for Palaeolithic to Mesolithic sites in this area and it is thought that there is a relatively high density of complex (and significant) sites dating from Palaeolithic through to early medieval periods.

## 8.3 Archaeological sub-zones

- 8.3.1 The archaeological sub-zones are presented in the table below from south-east to north-west. An indication of archaeological potential for each sub-zone is provided.

Table 1: Archaeological sub-zones

Number	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology (from baseline)
1	Farmland west of Lord Halisbury Memorial Playing Fields	Relatively flat pasture with hedges marking the post-medieval enclosure boundaries. Surrounded by urban development.	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.	Agricultural	Medieval 'open fields'.	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
2	Railway corridor	Railway embankment and ballast. South Ruislip London Underground Limited Maintenance Depot surrounded by urban development.	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.	Railway	Medieval 'open fields'.	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for Prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
3	Victoria Retail Park	20th century industrial park, relatively flat and built up. The area is dominated by relative large light industrial buildings and the associated access roads	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.	Industrial park	Medieval 'open fields'.	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for Prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
4	Residential areas of South Ruislip and Ruislip Manor	20th century residential. Relatively flat	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.	Suburban residential and light industrial	Predominantly medieval 'open fields'.	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for Prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
5	Northolt	Northolt Aerodrome.	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London	RAF airfield	Predominantly medieval 'open	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for

Number	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology (from baseline)
	Aerodrome	flat	Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.		fields'.	archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for Prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
6	Former RAF West Ruislip	20th century residential on former site of RAF West Ruislip	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel.	Suburban residential	Predominantly medieval 'open fields'.	The area was largely 'open fields' in the medieval period and therefore there is low potential for archaeology from the post-Roman period. Potential for Prehistoric to Roman archaeology but this is likely to be truncated by the 20th century development.
7	Ruislip Golf Course	Transition into west facing slope of the Colne Valley. Surface is covered by ridge and furrow with some modification for the golf course	The solid geology of CFA6 comprises sand and London Clay, whilst the drift geology varies between brickearth, clay and gravel	Golf course	Medieval 'open fields' as evidence by ridge and furrow on the Golf Course.	Ruislip golf course is covered by extant medieval ridge and furrow. There is therefore little potential for medieval or later archaeology. Prehistoric to Roman archaeology is likely to be masked by ridge and furrow.
8	Pynchester and Brackebury	Floodplain of River Pinn and west facing slope of the Colne Valley	London Clay with some superficial drift including head deposits and terrace gravel. Gently undulating but relatively steep slope into Colne Valley to west. Drainage to the west and south into the Colne and thence the River Thames.	Agricultural and wooded	Relatively rural area with medieval settlement incorporating two medieval moated sites.	Two medieval moated sites of Brackebury (RU1002) Farm and Pynchester (RU1001). There is high potential for Mesolithic deposits and Palaeolithic deposits in the Thames Terrace deposits.
9	Semi-rural west of Brakespear Road	West facing slope of River Colne Valley	London Clay with some superficial drift including head deposits and terrace gravel. Gently undulating but relatively steep slope into Colne Valley to west. Drainage to the west and south into the River Colne and thence the River Thames.	Semi-rural farm land. Suburban expansion in late 19th and 20th centuries replacing a predominantly pastoral landscape with much dairy. Significant route ways into London and canal corridor.	Largely medieval to post-medieval enclosures with isolated farm settlements.	Bronze Age cremations and Romano-British settlement evidence has been recovered from this area. There is high potential for Mesolithic deposits and Palaeolithic deposits in the Thames Terrace deposits.

## 9 Analysis and research potential

### 9.1 Analysis of understanding

- 9.1.1 The key known archaeological sites within the study area comprise:
- Bronze Age cremations reported from watching brief at Copthall Farm (CHA005);
  - Thames Terrace deposits within the Colne Valley with the potential for Palaeolithic artefacts and sites;
  - Romano-British Settlement north of Newyears Green Farm (CHA030);
  - the routes of a putative Roman road, running from Verulamium to Laleham; and
  - there is some potential for the remains of a medieval bridge known as Bourne Bridge at West end Road.
- 9.1.2 The above key sites are mainly located in archaeological sub-zones 7, 8 and 9.
- 9.1.3 Suburban development across archaeological sub-zones 1-5 limits the potential that archaeological remains survive in this area.
- 9.1.4 Extant ridge and furrow in archaeological sub-zone 6 limits potential for archaeology in this area after the Roman period.

### 9.2 Research potential and priorities

- 9.2.1 Work on the Proposed Scheme has the potential to increase our archaeological knowledge and understanding of this area. Many research questions can best be formulated at either a scheme-wide or at a county/multiple community forum area level. These will draw heavily on the regional and period research frameworks which have been prepared with support from English Heritage.
- 9.2.2 The Proposed Scheme is within tunnel in the eastern part this particular study area meaning that construction activities are limited to specific locations. Because of this, the opportunity for research is more limited here than elsewhere along the route.
- 9.2.3 Research questions in this area will largely address the archaeological potential in archaeological sub-zones 6, 7, 8 and 9. These include:
- what is the extent and nature of Palaeolithic deposits (RU1015) on the eastern side of the River Colne and do these deposits extend into the alluvial plane of the River Pinn? Can the archaeological programme help to inform a regional chronology for the early and later prehistoric periods in this area, tied into national chronological frameworks, taking the opportunity to clarify extant river terrace gravel sequences<sup>10</sup>;

<sup>10</sup> Museum of London,(2002), *A research framework for London Archaeology*, English Heritage, P18.

- what is the extent of the Bronze Age burial site (RUI021) previously identified at Copthall Covert? How do these burials relate to suspected Bronze Age round barrows at The Savay (CFA 7 Colne Valley) and west of Dews Farm (CFA 7 Colne Valley) represent a significant Bronze Age presence in the area and how do these funerary rites relate to each other? How do the burial rites exhibited here fit within the chronology of change in burial practices within the area.
- is there evidence for continuity of settlement from the Iron Age into the Roman period near Newyears Green (RUI014)? Is this settlement contemporaneous with Roman British settlement evidence at Denham Park Farm and Chenies in CFA 7.
- what is the actual alignment of the putative Roman Road between Verulamium and settlement at Laleham (RUI012)? Is the Romano British settlement north of Newyears Green associated with the above Roman Road?
- is there evidence for how the relationship between the hinterland and territorium of Londinium operated?;
- can the archaeological programme provide an understanding of the origins of rural settlement on the fringes of London?;
- can the archaeological and built heritage programme provide an understanding of the influence of pre-existing landscape on subsequent medieval and post-medieval development?;
- what is the date, nature and extent of potential medieval remains near Brackenbury Farm moated site (RUI002)?
- does any evidence of a medieval bridge (Bourne Bridge, RUI 032) survive at West End Road. If so what is its nature? and
- is there surviving evidence of a burial ground at 'Bone Field' (RUI063). If so what is its date, nature?

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